CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27TH FEBRUARY 2018:

The meeting opened at 14.30 hours and secretary Frank Simpson in the absence of the President welcomed the 8 members present, the low number being due to adverse weather conditions. The visiting speaker, Simon Goldblatt with a display titled "The British Virgin Islands" for the first half and "back of the book" the second half, was invited to present his material.

The classic stamps of St.Vincent issued between 1866-1878 amount to 23 items in the catalogues plus 12 varieties with different colour shades and 2 different perforations. The GB used and the Virgin Islands sales were poor at first, though widely distributed in London dealers, due to the printing they are not plateable.

De la Rue printed sheets of 20 in 1868. 1d, 4d (25 per sheet) 6d and 1s and 5s with different perforations and colour shade, in 1888 the 1s was issued surcharged. There were examples reproduced for Nevis and for Hyderabad, essays, de la Rue lithographed printing, including varieties.

Forgeries, including Fournier's; special "sexagenary" issue with different watermark for the sixth year of QueenVictoria's reign. In 1890 St.Vincent was taken over by the Leeward Islands but London allowed St. Vincent to issue their own design.

The display was mainly a feast of stamps although of one basic design plus a few covers of significant importance plus a few postcards of Danish West Indies issue.

The second half was a fascinating range of unusual varieties from many countries with forgeries including postmarks, special local issues, telegraph stamps, surcharges, perf/imperf, customs collecting stamps and Tristan da Cunha “potato currency” stamps.

Those present enjoyed an exceptional display and were well rewarded for their attendance. There was in fact a “buzz” of enjoyable appreciation which transmitted to the speaker who expressed his satisfaction with the reception.

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Graham Harker
Honorary Assistant Secretary